

MILITARY PENAL JURISDICTION

*Exchanges of notes at Washington September 2, October 20 and 25,
and November 10, 1919, modifying agreement of July 5 and Sep-
tember 6, 1918*

Entered into force October 20, 1919

Terminated by mutual agreement in 1933

1918 For. Rel. (supp. 2) 757

The Secretary of State to the Belgian Chargé d'Affaires

WASHINGTON, September 2, 1919

SIR: I have the honor to refer to the arrangement relative to military penal jurisdiction as set forth by my note to your Legation dated July 5, 1918, and your Legation's reply note dated September 6, 1918,¹ and to point out that, in accordance with its terms, it will continue only for the duration of the present war. In view of the fact that the war may be considered terminated in the near future, and that it may be desirable to continue the arrangement in force for a further period during the demobilization of the military forces, I have the honor to propose that this arrangement, after the conclusion of peace, continue to be recognized in full force and effect until 30 days after notice of its termination shall have been given by either Government.

Should this modification in regard to the termination of the aforesaid arrangement be acceptable to your Government, formal notification in writing to that effect will be understood, on the part of the Government of the United States, as giving validity to the proposed modification, and I shall be glad to receive your assurance that it will be so understood also on the part of your Government.

Accept [etc.]

ROBERT LANSING

The Belgian Chargé d'Affaires to the Secretary of State

WASHINGTON, October 25, 1919

SIR: In reply to your note of October 15, 1919 (811.203/49), I have the honor to advise you that the Belgian Government is disposed to continue

¹ *Ante*, p. 517.

the arrangement relative to military penal jurisdiction, as suggested in your notes of August 13 and September 2, 1919.

My Government has instructed me to inform them by cable when the Government of the United States will issue a declaration on the subject and I would appreciate it very much if you would be so kind as to enable me to comply with this request by advising me on what date such declaration will have been made.

Please accept [etc.]

C. SYMON

The Acting Secretary of State to the Appointed Belgian Ambassador

WASHINGTON, October 25, 1919.

EXCELLENCY: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of October 20, 1919, in which you were so kind as to advise me of the acceptance by the Belgian Government of the modification suggested in my note of September 2, 1919, in regard to the existing arrangement relative to military penal jurisdiction.

In reply to the inquiry as to when notice of this modification will be given, I have the honor to inform you that I shall forthwith advise the appropriate branches of this Government in regard to this modification. I shall appreciate it very much if you will be so kind as to inform me the date on which the appropriate declaration will be made on the part of your Government, and if you will also be so kind as to confirm my understanding that the aforesaid arrangement has not been terminated by the ratification on the part of your Government of the treaty of peace with Germany or otherwise, and that said modification may be considered as taking effect on October 20, 1919, the date of your note under acknowledgment.

Accept [etc.]

WILLIAM PHILLIPS

The Appointed Belgian Ambassador to the Secretary of State

WASHINGTON, November 10, 1919

SIR: I have brought to the knowledge of my Government the wish expressed in your letter of October 25, 1919 (811.203/60), concerning the acceptance by the Belgian Government of the modification suggested in your note of September 2, 1919, in regard to the existing arrangement relative to military penal jurisdiction.

I have now the honor to advise you that my Government has informed me that the notice, that the existing arrangement relative to military penal jurisdiction will continue to be in force, was published in the *Moniteur Belge* of November 8, 1919; besides my Government agrees that the said modification will be considered as taking effect on October 20, 1919.

Please accept [etc.]

E. DE CARTIER